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Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-10

RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

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E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 4/1/74
TUGS: ETRD, EEC, JA, SW, SZ, AU
SUBJECT: TARIFF COMMISSION ESCAPE CLAUSE REPORT ON BALL BEARINGS
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REF: STATE 150684; 193816

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1. WHITE HOUSE EXPECTED ANNOUNCE 11 AM MARCH 29 THAT PRESIDENT, ACTING PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE EXPANSION ACT OF 1962 AND ARTICLE XIX OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE, ACCEPTED THE TARIFF COMMISSION FINDING THAT BALL BEARINGS ENTERING UNDER TSUS ITEM 680.35 (EXCLUDING RADIAL BALL BEARINGS WITH OUTSIDE DIAMETER OF UNDER 9 MM) ARE, AS A RESULT IN MAJOR PART OF CONCESSIONS GRANTED UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS, BEING IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES IN SUCH INCREASED QUANTITIES AS TO CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY TO THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY PRODUCING LIKE OR DIRECTLY COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS AND ISSUED A PROCLAMATION INCREASING THE PREVAILING RATE OF DUTY ON SELECTED CATEGORIES OF SUCH BEARINGS, IF PRICED NOT OVER SPECIFIED UNIT VALUES, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) TSUSA ITEM 680.3508 (9 MM TO NOT OVER 30 MM) TO 20 PERCENT AD VALOREM, IF VALUED NOT OVER 60 CENTS PER UNIT;

(B) TSUSA ITEM 680.3512 (OVER 30 MM BUT NOT OVER 52 MM) TO 20 PERCENT AD VULORM, IF VALUED NOT OVER 75 CENTS PER UNIT;

(C) TSUSA ITEM 680.3517 (OVER 52 MM BUT NOT OVER 100 MM) TO 3.4 CENTS PER POUND PLUS 15 PERCENT AD VALOREM, IF VALUED NOT OVER 1.30 DOLLARS PER UNIT.

2. PREVAILING TRADE AGREEMENT RATES WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO APPLY TO IMPORTED BEARINGS PRICED ABOVE THE AFOREMENTIONED SPECIFIED UNIT VALUES.

3. THE INCREASED RATES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1974.

4. THE PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE TARIFF INCREASES ESTABLISHED FOR BALL BEARINGS COVERED BY TSUSA ITEMS 680.3508 AND 680.3512 WILL BE REDUCED TO THE TRADE AGREEMENT RATE IN THREE EQUAL ANNUAL STAGES COMMENCING MAY 1, 1976 AND THAT ESTABLISHED FOR BALL BEARINGS COVERED BY TSUSA ITEM 680.3517 IN TWO STAGES STARTING MAY 1, 1977.
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5. THE PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION DOES NOT AFFECT THE PREVAILING RATES OF DUTY APPLYING (A) TO BALL BEARINGS WITH INTEGRAL SHAFTS COVERED BY TSUSA ITEM 680.3300, (B) BEURING COVERED BY TSUSA ITEM 680. 3518 (OVER 100 MM) AND; (C) BEARINGS, OTHER THAN RADIAL, COVERED BY TSUSA ITEM 680.3522.

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6. THE PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION ALSO AUTHORIZES THE PROVISION OF ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRMS AND WORKERS IN THE DOMESTIC BALL BEARING INDUSTRY TO HELP THEM ADJUST TO THE IMPACT OF IMPORT COMPETITION.

7. GENEVA AND PARIS: INFORM GATT AND OECD SECRETARIATS. OTHER ADDRESSEES SHOULD INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS APPROPRIATE.

8. FOR MISSION'S BACKGROUND INFORMATION, THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION DIFFERS SOMEWHAT FROM THAT SUGGESTED BY THE TURINF COMMISSION IN THAT IT IS MORE LIMITED IN SCOPE BUT PROVIDES FOR HIGHER RATES IN TWO CATEGORIES WHICH ACCOUNT FOR THE MAJOR PART OF THE TRADE CAUSING INJURY. RUSH

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